

**ABSTRACT**

Contents encrypted by content encryption keys  $AE_{R1}$ ,  $AE_{R34}$  and content decryption keys  $AD_{R1}$ ,  $AD_{R34}$  encrypted by encryption keys  $BE_4$ ,  $BE_6$ ,  $BE_7$  are recorded on recording media 301, 302.

- 5 The encryption keys  $BE_4$ ,  $BE_6$ ,  $BE_7$  differ among playback regions 1 to 4 preset to control the permission and inhibition of content playback. Content playback regions can be limited by using only the encryption keys of regions where playback is permitted. Even if a key is leaked out, the other playback regions are not affected because the encryption keys differ among playback regions and therefore the copyright protection function is increased.